

BRUNEI









INTRODUCTION

The Sultanate of Brunei's influence peaked between the 15th and 17th centuries when its control extended over coastal areas of northwest Borneo and the southern Philippines. In 1888, Brunei became a British protectorate. Independence was achieved in 1984. The same family has ruled Brunei for over six centuries.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Sultan and Prime Minister Sir HASSANAL Bolkiah

Head of Government

Sultan and Prime Minister Sir HASSANAL Bolkiah

Government Type

absolute monarchy or sultanate

Capital

Bandar Seri Begawan

Legislature

unicameral Legislative Council or Majlis Mesyuarat Negara Brunei (36 seats/5-year terms)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

total: 5,765 sq km land: 5,265 sq km water: 500 sq km

Climate

tropical; hot, humid, rainy

Natural Resources

petroleum, natural gas, timber

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

almost exclusively an oil and gas economy; high income country; expansive and robust welfare system; the majority of the population works for the government; promulgating a nationalized halal brand; considering establishment of a bond market and stock exchange

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$27.23 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$62,200 (2020 est.)
Industries - petroleum, petroleum refining, liquefied natural gas,

construction, agriculture, aquaculture, transportation

Agricultural products - poultry, eggs, fruit, cassava, bananas, legumes, cucumbers, rice, pineapples, beef

Exports \$5.885 billion (2017 est.)

natural gas, crude and refined petroleum, industrial alcohols, industrial hydrocarbons (2019)

partners: Japan 34%, Australia 12%, Singapore 10%, India 8%, Malaysia 8%, Thailand 7%, China 6%, South Korea 5% (2019)

Imports \$2.998 billion (2017 est.)

crude and refined petroleum, cars, tug boats, valves (2019) **partners:** Singapore 18%, China 14%, Malaysia 12%, Nigeria 5%, UAE 5%, US 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

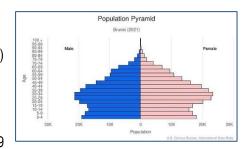
471,100 (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

1.48% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Malay 65.7%, Chinese 10.3%, other 24% (2019 est.)



Language

Malay (Bahasa Melayu) (official), English, Chinese dialects **Religion**

Muslim (official) 80.9%, Christian 7.1%, Buddhist 7.1%, other (includes indigenous beliefs) 5% (2016)

Urbanization

urban population: 78.6% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 1.44% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)